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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Baltic Sea)

REPORT NO.

25X1A

SUBJECT Soviet Warships in the Central Baltic Sea

DATE DISTR.

18 September 1953

NO. OF PAGES

2

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

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PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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1. At 1300 hours on 18 June 1953, in rain and hazy weather, a heavy cruiser was sighted on an easterly course proceeding at high speed two nautical miles from Gedser lightship. No name, tactical number, or nationality could be made out.

2. At 1940 hours on 18 June 1953, a large warship was sighted proceeding on an easterly course at high speed. superstructure and ships. towerlike, massive

3. At 2100 hours CET on 26 June 1953, six destroyers and two cruisers were sighted on an east-northeast-erly course. They proceeded at between 15 and 20 knots in stretched-out cruising formation, at a distance of about eight nautical miles. The destroyers, which had a tripod mast aft of the bridge, two smokestacks and a small mast forward of the after smokestack, seemed to be identical vessels. The two cruisers, also of one type, had two smokestacks, one mast aft of the bridge and a second large mast forward of the after smokestack and towerlike masts. The number of turrets could not be determined.

1. Comment. This was probably the cruiser SVERDLOV on her return trip from Spithead.

2. Comment. See page 2 for sketch of the formation.

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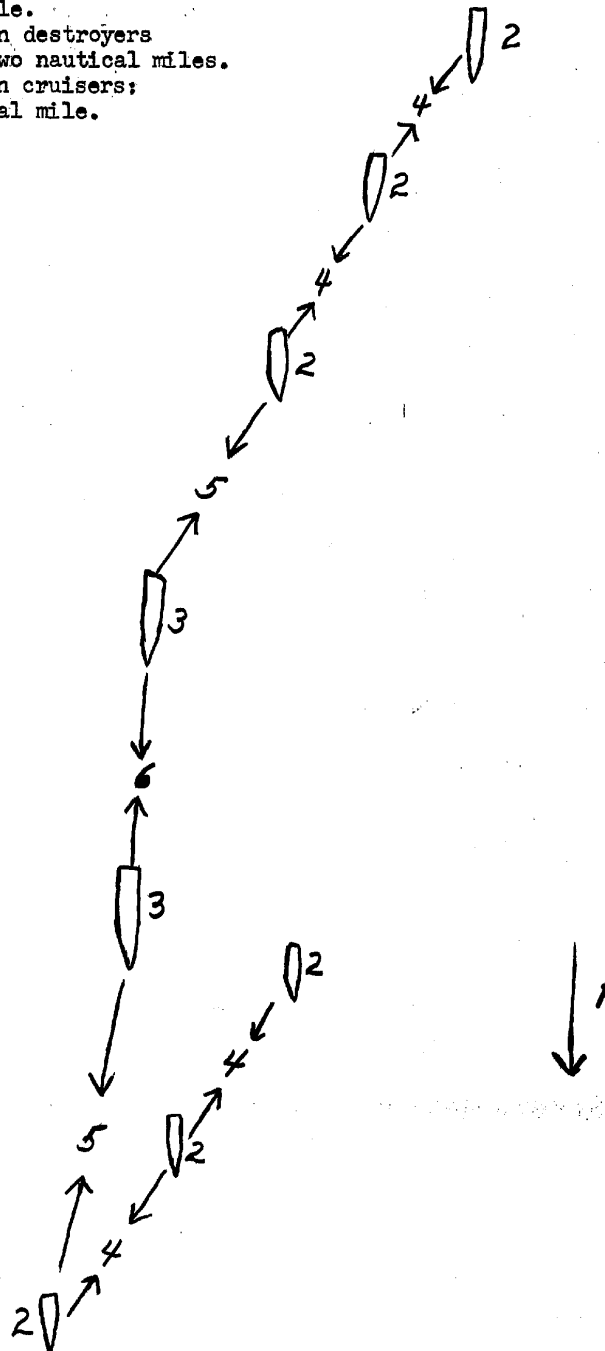
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- 2 -

Legend to Sketch

1. Squadron's course.
2. Destroyers.
3. Cruisers.
4. Distance between destroyers;
one nautical mile.
5. Distance between destroyers
and cruisers; two nautical miles.
6. Distance between cruisers;
one half nautical mile.



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